

GRAND PRIORY.

OF THE UNITED ORDERS OF THE TEMPLE AND HOSPITAL FOR THE
DOMINION OF CANADA.

THE Annual Assembly of the Grand Priory of the United Orders of the Temple and Hospital, under the banner of the Great Priory of England and Wales, was held in the Masonic Temple in the City of Ottawa, on Thursday, the 15th day of October, A. M. 5874, A. D. 1874, A. O. 756.

PRESENT.

Very Eminent † Frater W. J. B. McLeod Moore, Grand Prior, presiding; Very Eminent † Frater T. D. Harington, as Grand Sub-Prior; Officers, Members, and Representatives.

The Very High and Eminent the Grand Prior delivered the following

ADDRESS.

Officers and Members of the Grand Priory, Fraters of the Canadian Branch of the United Orders of the Temple and St. John of Jerusalem—Greeting:

You are too well acquainted with the very sad and melancholy circumstances which caused the postponement of the annual assembly of Grand Priory; the illness and subsequent death of our lamented Grand Chancellor, V. E. Sir Knight Thomas Bird Harris, which took place at his residence, at Hamilton, from typhoid fever, on the 18th of August last. The memory of our honored dead is ever dear to us, but none among them have passed away more deeply regretted than our late friend and eminent frater. Widely known and esteemed, he held the highest and most responsible offices in the Masonic orders of Canada; his loss is deeply deplored as one of the foremost of our representative Masons; faithful to every duty imposed upon him, his conciliatory and unassuming manner, and extensive knowledge on all masonic subjects caused his opinion to be courted and respected. In his immediate connection as our Grand Chancellor with myself, I ever found him zealous, ready, and able to assist, with a matured tact and judgment, in promoting the best interests of the order, and in reconciling conflicting opinions; in a word, his heart was in his work, and he neither spared time nor labor in what he undertook, indeed, it is much to be feared, that his self-imposed burden was beyond his strength, and that the anxieties consequent on his close and unremitting application to the duties of his various offices insensibly undermined his health, and led to his lamented removal, at a comparatively early age, and in the full vigor of his great usefulness. Our late frater was born in Bristol, England, on the 22nd July, 1819, and in his thirtieth year removed to Canada and settled at Hamilton as his subsequent residence. The various offices he so long and honorably held in the Masonic body are matters of history in the Canadian craft, and will be recorded by many a sorrowing hand. Suffice it here to say that he was installed a Knight Templar and Knight of Malta in the Genessee Encampment at Lockport, State of New York, in April, 1854, and in 1855 obtained a warrant from the S. Grand Conclave of Ireland to open an Encampment, to be attached, according to the regulations pertaining to that jurisdiction, to Barton Lodge, Hamilton, at that time No. 231 I. R., of which he had been W. M., this warrant was subsequently exchanged for one under the S. Grand Conclave of England and Wales, under which he opened, as Eminent Preceptor, the Preceptory so well known as the Godfrey de Bouillon of Hamilton, and although occasional elections of other preceptors have been made from time to time, the fraters seemed ever glad to resort to his lead and presidency, as evidenced by his reinstatement in that office on eight different occasions. In the Provincial Grand Conclave, which preceded the erection of Canada into a Grand Priory, he held the offices of Prov. Grand Chamberlain, Prov. Grand Prior, Dep. Prov. Gr. Commander, and Provincial Grand Chancellor, and under the Grand Priory those of Grand Chancellor and Provincial or District Prior of the Western Division or District of Ontario. He was also appointed by patent in 1868 to the rank of a Past Grand Sub Prior of the S. Grand Conclave of England and Wales. By his death a foremost place is vacant in our ranks, a true friend and brother has passed away for ever from amongst us, but whose name will ever be remembered and respected by every Canadian Templar, as well as by every Mason, of whatsoever degree, throughout the length and breadth of this vast Dominion. Rest in peace! Our Brother and Companion! and enjoy the reward of the faithful Soldier of the Cross!

It was with much regret I had to direct our late Grand Chancellor to announce to you the death of our Most Eminent and Supreme Ex-Grand Master William Stuart, Esq., of Aldenham Abbey, on the 7th July last, in the 76th year of his age, and to require that all members attending this Grand Priory should appear in appropriate